

Serial No.: 10/693,217
Group Art Unit: 2811

REMARKS

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 17-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 12 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter from claim 17, and the combination including the allowable subject matter is respectfully submitted to render claim 12 and the claims depending from claim 12 also allowable. Claim 17 has been canceled.

Claim 18 has been amended to depend from claim 12 rather than claim 17, and is believed to be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim.

New claim 23 includes the combination of claim 12 rewritten to include the allowable subject matter of claim 19, and the combination including the allowable subject matter is respectfully submitted to make claim 23 allowable and the claims 24-28 depending from claim 23 also allowable.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 12-15, 18-20, and 23-28 contain allowable subject matter and are allowable.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing the four planar spacers claimed in claim 16.

Claim 16 has been canceled so this objection is now moot.

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Claim Objections

Claim 14 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 9 of the claim, "andsaid" should be replaced with --and said--. Appropriate correction is required.

The correction has been made with a new paragraph starting with --said--. Claim 14 was correctly formatted in the preliminary amendment filed with the application on October 24, 2003, but was miscopied in the March 14, 2005, Amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Claim 21 has been canceled, and this rejection is now moot.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 21 has been canceled, and this rejection is now moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 12, 13, 15, 16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki (U.S. Patent No. 6,720,650, hereinafter referred to as "Miyazaki") in view of admitted prior art.

Claim 12 has been amended so the combination includes allowable subject matter. Claims 13, 15, and 20 respectively depend from independent claim 12 and are believed to be allowable since they contain all the limitations set forth in the independent claim from which they depend and claim non-obvious combinations thereof.. Claim 16 has been canceled.

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Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 12-15, 18-20, and 23-28 at an early date is solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0374 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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